

INTIMATIONS.

1887. NOW READY. 1887

THE

CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY

FOR 1887.

With which is incorporated
THE CHINA DIRECTORY.
(TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL ISSUE);COMPLETE, WITH APPENDIX, PLANS, &c., &c.,
ROYAL 8vo, pp. 1,158. 35.00.

SMALLER EDITION, 8vo, pp. 776. 33.00.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY

has been thoroughly revised and brought up by

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clusions with the great Viceroy?

Firmness, anxious to promote the welfare of his insulated province, and having sanctioned the acquisition of these steamer, has determined to venture a good deal to attain his object. Were this not the case, he would never have had the temerity to board the most powerful Chinese officials in the manner he has done. Is it probable that this outspoken and defiant Governor is being backed up by higher authorities who desire to try conclusions with the great Viceroy?

A SIMPLE BUT INSTRUCTIVE STORY.

Some dwellers in this land of Sin record it as their firm conviction that all Chinese are wanting in the grace of poetic diction. A certain fault for verse is all these critics will allow, and that, hold it, like the purse you get from the proverbial sow. Without advancing much that rash, they say most Chinese find it sweeter to light on an unfriendly cash than upon a lively metre. Indeed, what chance have they to choose? life is a drab mosaic of toils to win and heads to lose or hardly fall to be prouze; their dirty home (they like the dirt—or so at least says Ho Ansi) and cordial aquar cannot hurt such soulless animals as they. And, so, these add, in vain you look for any lofty aspiration, nor do you meet, outside a book, a flight of the imagination.

And yet, to show how very wrong it is to argue *a priori*, take the late case of General Wang, a simple but instructive story. They sent him as Commissioner to Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, and other regions over there where errant Chinamen have strayed, instructing him to ascertain why those remote uncultured places evinced a purpose all too plain to blunt the Mongolian raze; for if a Chinese vessel stranded, by means of regulations diverse they taxed the captain as he landed and charged port dues on the survivors. So General Wang was sent, perforce, to choose a fitting place and season to show the folly of this course, and bring the Colonists to reason. Fired with a lofty sense of duty, he went to dinner, fat, and full, and held converse with rank and beauty, and very much enjoyed it all; but for some reason (what he stated was that he did not wish to bore them) for several weeks he hesitated to lay his grievances before them. Still he was often interviewed, till he at last grew weary, and at the risk of seeming rude he put this somewhat awkward query: "Are you convinced that, on the whole, your race must waste while our race must wax and so on each Mongolian poll you levy this invidious tax?" "In not," they answered, "that we fear that consumption for the present, but that the Chinese over here have habits which are most unpleasant. Their morals—well, never mind. They wear our linen; what they eat is garbage most, and when they've dined they leave the balance in the street. Their fondness for an ancient small exceeds their love for noisome places; they won't have back yards and they dwell in insufficient cubic spaces." But Wang's reply was prompt and soon suited his official status, ay! (let the artifices marvel) it breached the true divine afflatus. He harangued, mid applause, (could any poetry be finer?) "Enforce your sanitary laws, as we must force our laws in China."

H.I.M.'s pinhead Sennels left Nagasaki for Vladivostok on the 1st instant, and the Boats for Chamlipo on the 6th.

The Customs collection at Saigon since the imposition of the new tariff is said to amount to about 100,000 francs per month.

The U.S. corvette Marion left Yokohama for Panama, via Honolulu, on the 3rd instant, and will return after shipping new officers and crew.

The first American railway engine that has been imported into China left Shanghai on the 7th inst. in the El Dorado for Tientsin. The boiler weighs five and half tons.

The French gunboat Comte, Commandant Martel, from Haiphong 12th instant, arrived yesterday, bringing on board M. Billard, Minister Plenipotentiary and Resident-General at Tonquin, and M. François, Vice-President.

The Daily News says:—Mr. H. B. Morse, of the Customs Service, lately attached to the Chinese S. N. C. of China, has been transferred to the Inspector-General at Peking, and the subject of discussion is the growing strangeness between those two powerful Chinese officials; a matter of extreme interest, and will, before it is ended, produce some serious results." The subject of discussion is the recent refusal of the Viceroy of Chihli to allow two new steamers—purchased at the instance of the Governor of Formosa—for the purpose of promoting intercourse between the island and the ports of the mainland—to compete on the Yangtze and on the Northern coast with the fleet of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company. The reasons for this course are set out in the Viceroy's despatch, which he evidently intends to be final, for he says:—"I will therefore communicate with Liu, the Governor of Formosa, and request him personally to instruct the said degraded Taotai that the two steamers he has ordered can only be allowed to trade between the ports of Formosa, and Canton, and, unless instructed by me to the contrary, they are not to proceed either to the Yangtze or the Northern ports, so that there may be no competition with the C. M. S. N. C., resulting in loss and injury to both parties. I will also write to the Minister Superintendent of Southern Trade, Texio, and instruct the Superintendents of Customs at Shanghai, Tientsin, and other ports to this effect. I have now to request that you will give full effect to my instructions, in reference to which I anticipate further communications from your Company."

It, however, His Excellency Li Hung-chang expected—as he evidently did—the prompt submission of the Governor of Formosa, and his Company, he made a great mistake. Liu Ming-chuan briskly returned to the charge, and his despatch to the Viceroy is at once caustic and vigorous. He energetically denounces the competence of the Chinese Merchants' S. N. Company to conduct into the China Merchants' S. N. Company with the foreign shipping companies, and again requests the Viceroy to look upon his Company with equal favour to that with which he regards the older native shipping company. He calmly adds that he has memorialised the Throne on the subject, and broadly institutes that, despite the Viceroy's commands, the Formosan steamers will go to Yangtze and Northern ports. A side thrust is also dealt at the Viceroy in the following passage, where, referring to the degraded Taotai Chang Hung-lu, the Governor of Formosa says:—"Appointed him to assist in the administration of commercial matters because his abilities make him of use, and he is skilled in business matters. He is not like Ma Kien-cheng, whose only ability is fawning on foreigners without regard to his own reputation." With regard to the question at issue between these two Chinese officials there is of course room for a great difference of opinion. The Viceroy of Chihli has made great sacrifices for the China Merchants' Co., which is now doing well, and he ardently desires that it may recoup its former losses. Moreover, a loan has been contracted on the security of its fleet, and the Viceroy is pledged to do all that he can to support it. The Governor of

The Viceroy of Hu-kuang has ordered the Iohang Taotai to report to Mr. Little's steamer as soon as he gets up to Chinkiang.

According to the Daily News, the steamer *Pooh* arrived at Shanghai on the 11th inst. from Foochow. She brought a cargo of 50 boxes of salved piecemeal goods, and reports that the vessel is in three parts. The fore end lies in 7 fathoms and the stern in 12. The engine-room and boiler are lying at the side some distance from the vessel. The fore-truck is above water, and salvaging is still going on under difficult conditions.

The damage done to houses and other property by the recent outbreak of rain at the Imperial Southern Pleasure grounds tumbled down, making a breach of 300ft. wide, and others below belonging to the Board of Public Works who were sent to inspect the damage, estimate the cost of repairs at not much short of £10,000. This sum has been provided for from the Imperial Exchequer, and the work of repairing the breach will commence as soon as an auspicious day has been selected.

According to the native paper, *Ming Sung Yek*, one of the sons of H. I. M. the Mikado, gave birth to a son on the 22nd ult. The only other surviving son of the Mikado is Prince Harn-no-miya, who was born on the 31st August, 1879. Prince Haru was formally and officially declared on the 31st ultimo, his birthday, heir apparent to the throne. An entertainment in celebration of the event was given the same day in the Palace, and Ministers of State paid their respects to the Prince, who also received from all members of the Imperial Family posthumous felicitations.

Another vessel which has experienced the effects of the recent typhoon reached this port yesterday. The steamer *Dorothy*, from Bangkok 23rd August, reports as follows:—Between the 11th and 12th instant encountered a heavy gale, which blew from the Westward, increasing to a hurricane, with high irregular seas, the wind varying from W. to S. with the barometric pressure 29.30, and the sea temperature 80°. The vessel compassed two smaller landmasses and a series of reefs, and the chronometer stopped. Hove the vessel to for thirty-six hours after which the weather became fine, with lighter breezes to port.

At date of latest advice from Vladivostok, says the *Nagasaki Express* of the 7th instant, the British fleet under Admiral Hamilton, consisting of fourteen vessels, had arrived off the port of Hakodate. They are now on their way to Port Arthur. The British fleet, and a number of steamers and auxiliaries, were scattered over the sea, and were not able to meet. Inevitably as it may seem, we are reluctantly informed that only two ships were allowed to enter Vladivostok harbour at one time, and that only after special permission had been obtained from the Governor of the port. Mr. Wilkinsen appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Master for the defendant.

Following is the evidence of Capt. C. F. Wilson:

"I. That by an audience of Crown Law dated 8th November, I, a certain piece of land situated in the colony of Hongkong and registered in the Land Office as Aberdeen Island Lot No. 15, was demised to one Sam Lee for the term of 99 years, and that the rent was £100 per annum, and that the sum of £100 was paid to me on the 29th December, 1886, and that the sum of £100 was paid to me on the 29th December, 1887, and that the sum of £100 was paid to me on the 29th December, 1888, and that the sum of £100 was paid to me on the 29th December, 1889, and that the sum of £100 was paid to me on the 29th December, 1890, and that the sum of £100 was paid to me on the 29th December, 1891, and that the sum of £100 was paid to me on the 29th December, 1892, and that the sum of £100 was paid to me on the 29th December, 1893, and that the sum of £100 was paid to me on the 29th December, 1894, and that the sum of £100 was paid to me on the 29th December, 1895, and that the sum of £100 was paid to me on the 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Do. "see" Reid's York.

Do. Gold Folij (dry)

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HONGKONG, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH, 1887.

ACTING UN-OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

The system of acting appointments is not one that finds much favour in the eyes of the public, either here or in other places. The *locum tenens* seldom feels the same interest in the work that is felt by the holder of the substantive post, and often has his hands tied to a certain extent through the natural desire not to inaugurate a new departure or to make difficulties for the actual incumbent of the office he temporarily directs. This applies more especially to administrative departments. Unfortunately, however, for the community and for the lower officials, the system is more or less inevitable in Hongkong. It is, of course, quite impossible to have two sets of officials, and it is equally unseemly to deny to the heads of departments the holidays they have earned and which are frequently indispensable to the preservation of their health. It happens as often as not, as one result of the system, that the square peg gets fitted into the round hole, and the work of the departments becomes hampered and impeded to a bad degree. But it is hard to say where the remedy is to be found. Probably the best way to minimize the ill results of the system is to promote the next in rank in the department when possible, and not pass them over merely to confer a little promotion on a perhaps unkindly and favoured official admirably employed in other and possibly very different work.

The evils of the system of acting appointments are not, however, confined to the officials; they extend to appointments of unofficial members of the Legislative Council. Of this fact we have an instance now before us. When Mr. THOMAS JACKSON left this colony in April, 1886, the Chamber of Commerce, which had nominated him, selected Mr. A. P. MAC-EWEN to fill his place, and Mr. JACKSON went away on leave. Upon Mr. JACKSON's resumption of the post of Chief Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, his leave expired, and Mr. MAC-EWEN's acting incumbency as member for the Chamber also ceased. Mr. JACKSON, however, has thought well to resign the post, and a fresh nomination becomes necessary. Meantime, the work of legislation is delayed because of Mr. MAC-EWEN's absence, the Government feeling reluctant to proceed with that important measure the Public Health Bill with the unofficial element in the Council weakened by the absence of a member who has taken a lively and intelligent interest in the Bill. The incident is instructive, and it will, we hope, lead to a little reform in this direction. The Hon. C. P. CHATER holds an acting appointment, Mr. F. D. SASSON being the actual representative of the Justice of the Peace. It is quite possible that Mr. SASSON may return at a moment when the Hon. C. P. CHATER may be, as at present, most usefully engaged in some important legislative work where his experience and knowledge are simply invaluable, and the threads of which Mr. SASSON would not be ready to take up at short notice. What we would propose, therefore, is that no unofficial member should be allowed more than six months' leave; if he be leaving the colony for a longer period he should be expected to resign his seat at the Council, and let his successor be appointed permanently, thus doing away with acting unofficial members. The same reform should also be extended to the appointments of unofficial members made by the Governor. With five unofficial seats at the Council and the frequent holidays taken by members, there would be no necessity for the exclusion for any lengthened period of an exceptionally able or popular member, while the reform suggested would be fairer for all parties and of the introduction of more new blood into our legislative body.

EDUCATION IN HONGKONG.

Tempora mutantur, et nos mutamur in illis. Scarcely anywhere has the change been greater than in Hongkong and the ports in China. The condition of life amongst foreigners in these places has so altered within the past twenty, even, to a considerable extent, within ten years, that new converts can form no conception of how we then lived and moved, while even old residents think of the past as of a dream. Then the communities consisted almost exclusively of merchants and their assistants, with, of course, the inevitable officials, the great majority young men. Ladies were, like angels visits, few and far between, and were, therefore, almost worshipped as if they had been veritable angels. Little was it then anticipated that in so few years there would be in Hongkong many hundreds of European children. These were the days of big bongs, very few small ones, and hardly any outside people, and a condition of obtaining a partnership in one of the larger bongs was that the aspirant should remain a bachelor during his term. That may have been a good custom, but its continuance would certainly have corrupted us. Fortunately the old order has changed and given place to new. One, indeed, the chief duty which the altered constitution of the foreign population imposes on us is to provide for the education of the young, especially those of our own blood. When it is recollect that the Central School was intended for children of all nationalities, but now, owing to the vast preponderance of Chinese, no one would say that it is a suitable place to which to send European boys. The Government having given a new and expensive building for the education of aliens, most of whom leave Hongkong soon after their school days,

competition with those educated in England, and also with those having the advantage of the generally admitted better systems prevailing on the Continent. Something has been done for European boys (unfortunately for boys only) by the establishment of the Hongkong Public School. But it is obligatory on us to ask if that is all we have to do, and if it has been done as it might and ought to have been.

The element of power to which the priesthood, whether Roman Catholic or Protestant, holds on with the greatest tenacity is the education of the young. They know that when that is taken from them their influence is immensely weakened. Whether it is for good or ill that the control of education has been to a great extent taken out of their hands in England is not necessary for us to here enquire. But in Hongkong, where a considerable, and by no means unimportant, proportion of the foreign community consists of Jews, Turks, Indians, and Heretics, it is essential that provision should be made for those without their being compelled to submit to forms and regulations made for the children of Christian parents. And amongst the section of the foreign residents which professes the Roman Catholic faith there is not an inconsiderable number who are not satisfied with the School under the control of that Church. Correspondence in our own columns has shown this, special complaint having been made of the repeated interruption to the lessons and the time occupied by prayers at St. Joseph's College. Then, amongst the Portuguese there are many who, being in easy circumstances, are willing to pay for the best education procurable for their children, and who naturally wish to keep them from association with those of the lowest class, which cannot be done at the Christian Brothers' School. There can be no doubt that if we had a first class school for foreigners, conducted on purely secular principles a number of the better-class Portuguese would feel that a want was supplied, and would send their children in spite of threats of excommunication. We do not forget that the establishment of the Hongkong Public School was greatly aided by the Bishop of Victoria and those whom we may be allowed to designate, the particularly religious members of the English community; but it was never understood that these were to have an exclusive voice in the management of the school, or that restrictions were to be put on the entry of any boy owing to the creed of one or both of his parents. Surely a wall brought up Jew or Parsee is far safer associate than Christian children of low percentage. That the school has in a manner supplied a want we are ready to acknowledge, and that under the present master it has been very successful, but we have no basis, in saying that under more favourable auspices it might have been much more so. The fact is that the English Protestant community is not yet large enough to support a first class school in which Episcopalian Protestantism is made a leading feature. Even allowing that the school was founded on that basis it cannot be said that it has worked as harmoniously as could have been wished. During its short duration it has had four masters, and two of them left in disagreement with the Committee or with the active portion of it. It is an open secret that at the present moment there exists a misunderstanding that might lead to serious consequences. If we are rightly informed, there appears to be a desire on the part of some of the more energetic members of the Committee to exclude boys on account of the religion of their parents, and, it is even said, to interfere in an irritating manner with the duties of the head master. Whether there is any reason why the decision as to the admission of new pupils in this school should not rest with the head master we do not know, but that he is the person upon whom that duty devolves in almost every other school is well known. The Committee have just taken a new departure; they have prepared a form of application for the admission of new pupils, which we believe has given great dissatisfaction owing to its inquisitorial tenor. A whole series of questions as to the nationality, profession, religion, etc., of each of the parents has to be answered. In case of failure, the pupils are taught certain accomplishments as well as they could be in any other school, but at present schools they are not taught, what is the all-in-all of school education, to think for themselves. Indeed it is not too much to say that their minds are dwarfed instead of being expanded.

Such being our needs, and it will not be denied that it is our imperative duty to supply them with the least possible delay, cannot we make use of the facilities we have, and by reorganizing and extending them, have found an admirable plan for keeping away pupils. Should such be their object they will undoubtedly succeed, but in case of that policy being persevered in we may safely predict a serious decline in the efficiency, if not the dissolution, of the school. If this want of harmony is to prevail it may have the beneficial result of leading to the establishment of a purely non-sectarian school. In the meantime the subscribers may fairly ask whether their object is being carried out as they intended. The amount subscribed, and the endowments which some public-spirited members of the community have bestowed on it, ought, with the pupils' fees, to make it self-supporting if conducted on entirely independent lines. Should any additional sum be required we believe the public would readily come forward, and the Government, which has done so much for the Chinese, could not refuse to help. The Central School was intended for children of all nationalities, but now, owing to the vast preponderance of Chinese, no one would say that it is a suitable place to which to send European boys. The Government having given a new and expensive building for the education of aliens, most of whom leave Hongkong soon after their school days,

are over, cannot do less than give the ground and a building for the education of British subjects, our own flesh and blood, many, perhaps most, of whom will remain in the Colony.

That an educational institution for Europeans would, if properly conducted, succeed without clerical aid is shown by the unexpected prosperity of the Shanghai Public School. This was founded in April last year by the Masonic body of that port. It opened with thirty-nine pupils and in six months numbered was increased to eighty-seven. We do not know the number at present, but believe it is much higher. The Report presented in October last stated that it was then self-supporting, and that it was hoped there would soon be funds to enable a free education to be given to the children of deceased Masons. Yet its prosperity has been attained in the neighbourhood very offensive; third, by their opium-smoking habits, which are frequently prolonged until morning; fourth, by their violation of the Sabbath in congregating in crowds on the sidewalk, and their disorderly and sacrilegious deportment; fifth, by their hideous music and noise, day and night; sixth, by their constant gambling; seventh, by their keeping all their stores open and selling goods on Sunday, and, consequently, bringing to this neighbourhood vast crowds of Chinamen from all parts of the city, thereby filling our sidewalk with great crowds, not only annoying to us, but a nuisance to every good citizen passing this way." This is a strong indictment, and it is obvious that the righteous residents of the Quaker city earnestly desire the exodus of the Chinese who have pitched their tents among them. But the Chinese are not all inclined to go, and some of their number have addressed a long letter to the *Ledger* in which they insist very strongly upon their Treaty rights, and decline to be driven out by aggrieved property owners. More than this, they boldly threaten to sue the United States Government if any attempts are made to injure Chinese peacefully following their trades and callings. Evidently the Chinese in Philadelphia know something of their rights, and do not intend to quietly submit to expulsion.

With all this we have no very intimate concern. The Chinese of Philadelphia, unlike some of their countrymen in the Pacific States, are able to protect their own interests, and can and will take their case to their Minister at Washington. What we are more concerned with is the mendacious statements relating to opium which these sons of Han have had the temerity to make in the *Ledger*. They are reported to have stated in their letter to that paper:—"As to opium smoking the Chinese are not to blame, but are the victims . . . China does not make opium, and opium was never raised in China. All that is there is imported from English provinces into China." There are in the above four districts and glaring falsehoods of those who neither value the truth nor care how soon their want of it may be exposed. Every Chinaman who has lived in China must know well that the poppy is extensively cultivated in many provinces of the empire and the opium circulated in most of them. It is perhaps less universally known that the habit of opium smoking was introduced into China before the advent of foreigners. It is also perhaps not generally understood among Chinese that a not inconsiderable portion of the imported opium comes from Persia and Turkey, which are not English provinces or even dependencies. These misstatements would matter very little were it not for the fact that they will be believed by tens of thousands of ignorant persons in the United States, who, like the Anglo-Oriental Society for the Suppression of the Opium Traffic, delight to see odious charges thrown upon England for a trade which is perfectly legitimate, and from which the Chinese Government are well content to draw an enormous revenue. It is rather a singular fact that, when Chinese in America are untruthfully and audaciously asserting that opium is not produced in the Central Kingdom, the Chinese drug should be so seriously competing with the foreign opium that the extinction of the trade in the latter is regarded as probable by many persons, and is morally certain, unless the Peking Government, to save their revenue, subjects the home grown product to similar duties to those imposed on the imported article. Apart, however, from this circumstance, we have abundant proof that opium has been produced in China for the last half century, and a return published in 1884 by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs of the estimated output of native opium showed that it even then exceeded the import of foreign drug. The production has largely increased since then, and we believe that, if the import of foreign opium ceased to-morrow, the reduction in the supply would be made up in a couple of years at most by Chinese growers. In 1886, Dr. DODDOR estimated the Chinese production at 370,000 piculs, which is quite within the mark. But the real facts are too often ignored in great questions, some persons being too idle to inquire and others too ready to swallow the first barefaced lies that they see in print, especially if it leaps with their prejudices, or corroborates their views.

Brotherly Love. A petition has been presented to the Mayor of Philadelphia by seventy-seven property-owners and residents of Race Street, Tenth and Eleventh streets for aid in ridding the neighbourhood of a swarm of Chinese gamblers and opium smokers. They state that property in a single square has depreciated to such an extent in consequence of their presence that \$150,000 would be a low estimate of the loss.

The petition to the Mayor contains the following specification:—"The value of the property is depreciating and business is ruined by their immoral actions; first, by their unchaste appearance in public, by reason of the style of clothing worn by them, often partially revealing their nude forms; second, by the use of vile language by nearly every Chinaman, making his passage along a tea cup, and cannot pass over without leaving its effects behind. The British residents at Bangkok have resolved to petition the House of Lords and the House of Commons on the subject, and there would be little chance, if any, of impersonation. I should propose therefore that he should make out the list and that the election should take place before the end of October, 1887.

Mr. MICHAEL, an able barrister occupying the responsible position of legal adviser to the Siamese Government. It is alleged that in one case Mr. GOUZL joined a man who came to his court to take out a summons for assault—the occasion for the jeering before the man had carried an appeal from Mr. GOUZL's court to Singapore—and that, when the case was called on, it was dismissed in the absence of the complainant, who was suffering so severely from the effects of the assault that he was unable to appear, a fact of which it would seem the Consul had notice. This is only one case out of several in which it is alleged in effect that the Consul's action has been influenced by favour, affection, or animosity. The affair amounts to more than a storm in a tea cup, and cannot pass over without leaving its effects behind. The British residents at Bangkok have resolved to petition the House of Lords and the House of Commons on the subject, and there would be little chance, if any, of impersonation. I should propose therefore that he should make out the list and that the election should take place before the end of October, 1887.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

MINUTES.

The Acting COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table a minute by his Excellency the Acting Governor recommending a rate of \$1,000 to Mr. BRACE SHEPPARD as remuneration for services rendered by him in connection with the Land Commission.

Referred to the Finance Committee.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

The Council received consideration in Committee of the Public Health Bill.

THE ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL. There is a small section which I have to propose and which has been circled—

"5.—The mode of election, the proceedings incident thereto, and all other matters relating to the election of a member of the Legislative Council to be governed by the rules contained in Schedule 1 to the Ordinance. The Governor in Council may from time to time add to, vary, or revoke any of the said rules. Those rules have been circulated and some objection has been taken to them as being too stringent, and as being calculated to give an undue advantage to the members who have the largest constituencies. I will propose that the election of a member of the Legislative Council shall be governed by rules to be made by the Governor in Council, who may from time to time add to, vary, or revoke any of the said rules." In the new rules I would propose the list should be prepared by the Registrar of the General Register Office, and the election held on the 1st of November. It will be necessary to make a judgment as to what these gentlemen considered to be the most appropriate date.

EXCELLENCY. I am glad you have made those remarks. If any little word escaped me which may give rise to a wrong impression let me remove it at once. I will read Mr. Jackson's letter which is just as you say.

8th September.

Sir—I have the honour to request you to inform me of the seat at the Legislative Council. I do so because I feel I cannot spare sufficient time to do justice to the appointment.

What I meant was that if these gentlemen conferred together as to what they thought best for the public service and the time they came to do agreement, it was not an arrangement with the Government.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council then adjourned to Monday, the 18th inst.

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the above company was held on the 12th inst. at the office of the General Managers (Messrs. Russell & Co.), Hongkong for the purpose of confirming the resolution passed on the 20th August. There were present—Messrs. W. H. Forbes (Chairman), J. S. West, Captain Talbot, and Mr. R. Shaw (Secretary).

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting and the minutes of the previous meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—This is only a formal meeting called to confirm the resolution that "The present articles of association be altered by adding at the end of article 4 the words 'The Company may from time to time reduce its capital'."

Captain TALBOT—What are the other alterations?

The CHAIRMAN—They will come on at a meeting to be called later. This meeting is simply to confirm the resolution giving us power to reduce our capital, a power which we did not possess before. We had the power to increase our capital but not to reduce it.

Mr. S. WEST then proposed that the resolution be confirmed.

Captain TALBOT seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

THE ACTING GOVERNOR'S VISIT TO THE ALICE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, HONGKONG.

The Secretary of the Alice Memorial Hospital has received the following communication from His Excellency the Acting Governor, Major-General CAMERON, C.B.

My visit last week to the Alice Memorial Hospital afforded me very great pleasure. There can be no doubt about the good work being done and the high reputation the institution is already acquiring amongst the Chinese, considering that it has been in operation for over six months ago. The medical staff are officially engaged in the hospital, and I have no doubt that they are well qualified for the work they are called to do. My house is open to all, and I have no objection to their visiting me at any time.

I think it is only a formal meeting which I will be able to attend to-morrow evening. I trust your Excellency will be pleased to accept the proposition of my friend, Captain TALBOT.

Captain TALBOT—What are the other alterations?

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Mr. S. WEST then proposed that the resolution be confirmed.

Captain TALBOT seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

THE HONGKONG GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS.

The following amended regulations, for Government Scholarships for the study of Law, Medicine, or Civil Engineering in the United Kingdom, have been approved by the Secretary of State and published in *Sir Andrew's Gazette*.

The sum of £1,000 per annum, for the study of Law, Medicine, or Civil Engineering in the United Kingdom, two Scholarships of £200 (two hundred pounds) each, for four years, to scholars of any Public School recognized as such by the Governor in the Colony of Hongkong, on the following conditions:

1.—One Scholarship will be awarded in each alternate year.

2.—The holder of a Scholarship can select the College course he wishes to follow or the Hospital where he is to study, subject to the approval of the Governor or the Secretary of State for India.

3.—The holder of a Scholarship will be entitled to receive a stipend of £200 for the feeding of poor patients out of the charitable allowances.

In addition to the private donation just mentioned, His Excellency will personally, before his visit to the Hospital, be pleased to make the liberal grant of £200 for the feeding of poor patients out of the charitable allowances.

Please accept the enclosed donation in aid of the Hospital as a token of the interest I take in it and of my best wishes for its future prosperity and development.

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3.—The holder of a Scholarship will be entitled to receive a stipend of £200 for the feeding of poor patients out of the charitable allowances.

4.—The Scholarships will be awarded, after competitive examination, to the Candidates who obtain the highest marks, but subject to the restrictions mentioned below in paragraphs 5, 6, and 7.

5.—The Candidates will be scholars, previously approved by the Governor, from any recognized Public School in the Colony of Hongkong, and will be required to bring the following certificates from the Head Master of the respective School:

(a)—Certificate of good moral character.

(b)—Certificate of age. Candidates must not exceed 20 years, nor be below 17 years.

(c)—Certifying that the Candidate has been absent from school for less than three months in the last twelve months.

5.—Every Candidate will be required to undergo a Medical Examination with a view to ascertaining that he is in a sound state of health.

6.—Every Candidate will be required to undergo a Medical Examination with a view to ascertaining that he is in a sound state of health.

7.—The successful Candidate will be required to—

(a)—Proceed to England within two months of his election.

(b)—On his arrival there to report himself to the Colonial Office as having entered his name at the College or Institution, approved by the Governor or Secretary of State, for verifying in proof thereof a letter from the Principal.

THE BRITISH COMMUNITY AT BANGKOK AND THEIR CONSUL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 9th inst. There were present—

His EXCELLENCY THE ACTING GOVERNOR, Major-General CAMERON, C.B.

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(c.) To forward quarterly to the Crown Agents and Officers, sixtieth part of the amount and proficiency in study from the Principal or Head, upon receipt of which, the quarterly instalment of his Scholarship will be paid to him.

8.—The holder of the Scholarship will once be entitled to draw any money if he fail in any of these requirements.

9.—Passage will be paid to England by the Government and in special cases, where the Head Master certifies it to be absolutely necessary, an advance of \$150 will be made for purposes of outfit, but the whole amount expended for outfit will be paid through the two Agents, in quarterly instalments during the year of the Scholarship.

10.—The return passage will also be paid, if nothing shall have occurred to disqualify.

11.—The holder of the Scholarship will not be allowed to remove to another College or Institution without the permission of the Secretary of State.

EXAMINATION.

12.—The time of examination will be within the last fourteen days of the month of October.

13.—The next examination will take place in October, 1888, and due notice of the day and hour will be given in the Government Gazette.

EXAMINERS.

14.—The Examiners will be the Syndicate of the University of Cambridge.

15.—The Inspector of Schools will act as local Presiding Examiner and may associate with him for the purpose such person or persons as may be approved by the Governor.

SUBJECTS.

16.—The subjects with the maximum marks attached, will be the following:

English Composition.....	100
" History.....	150
" Literature.....	150
Geography.....	100
Arithmetical.....	100
Algebra.....	100
Euclid.....	100
Mensuration.....	100

17.—No candidate will be eligible who fails to get 400 marks in the four English subjects together with 300 marks in the remaining subjects.

DETAILS OF SUBJECT.

18.—History.—An epoch of selected from time to time by the Inspector of Schools.

Literature.—A hand-book on English literature, and a special play of Shakespeare, or work of any other English poet to be selected from time to time by the Inspector of Schools.

Geography.—General political and physical geography, but special knowledge of the British Isles, of the British Colonies and Dependencies, and of China, will be required.

Arithmetic.—All the subjects included in the usual standard text books.

Algebra— <i>Ouadratic equations (inclusive)</i>	
Eudoxus—Book I, IV.	

Mensuration.—Lengths, areas, volumes, and areas of the surfaces of solids.

Latin.—A book of Caesar, with grammar and translation of short simple sentences into Latin.

Chemistry—Elementary.

10.—Within a month after the conclusion of an examination, the details concerning the subjects of the now examining examination will be published in the *Governor Gazette*.

RESULT OF EXAMINATION.

20.—In accordance with the weight of the details of the examination, the names of the first 50 Candidates will be published in each issue, in the *Governor Gazette*, in the order of merit, with the number of marks obtained and the names of the schools where they were educated.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents!

TYPHOON AT SWATOW.

The steamship *Hawkin*, Capt. Ashton, which arrived in Hongkong on the 18th instant, reports having experienced a typhoon at Swatow.

The *Hawkin* arrived in Swatow on Saturday, the 10th instant. The barometer was then falling and continued to fall until Sunday evening, the lowest reading being 29.94. On Sunday morning the gale began to blow from the N.E. and blew with typhoon force from noon till about one o'clock in the evening. In the morning the wind was about N.N.E., varying to N.E. and blew strongly throughout the day dying away to S.E. about midnight. The tide rose about three feet above its ordinary level. Despite the force of the wind very little damage was done. One or two junks were destroyed, without any loss of life being occasioned, and the band was damaged in several places.

During the blow, besides the *Hawkin*, the steamship *Thales*, *Phra Chula Chai Kao*, and the *Chitai* remained in the harbour.

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A SCHOOL FOR FOREIGNERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—You argue rightly this morning that the Government is as much or more called on to endow a school for British subjects as for Chinese. I am not in the Chinese Government, but I am fully under the impression which is diffused by the Chinese Schools. In this connection it is important to make known the fact that in 1875 the Victoria College were being pulled down. The ground contained about forty houses, some of them foreign. To save we will take them at their value, rent of thirty dollars each. This gives \$14,400 per annum in twelve years, or \$1,200 per annum for a five years' lease, making a total sum of \$91,200.

It will call \$20,000 which has been criminally thrown away. I am aware that Sir Popery is likely to blame. How true it is that the Devil makes us live after them! But it is the Government as a "going concern" that we have to do with, and I think the very least they can do is to give sum towards the endowment of a school for European children. It is a duty that cannot be shirked much longer. Which of our unfeeling men of Council will?

BILING IT FORWARD?

Hongkong, 12th September, 1887.

The following is a page serving the Taoists priests in a certain temple which is situated on a mountain of considerable height in Canton. When he first came to the priests he was in the middle of his pilgrimage, and the priests asked him what he had seen. He said, "I have seen the world." They then asked him what he had seen. He said, "I have seen the world."

The only true religion, so they have as man's right to their principles the "liberal" members of the Church of England. They may not have the attention of the world, but they have the same indifference to the world as the "liberal" members of the Church of England.

I have no doubt that they are the best people in the world.

During the blow, besides the *Hawkin*, the steam-

THE WOMEN OF JAPAN.

Time, says the *Japan Mail*, has always been singularly kind to the women of Japan. With wrinkles or gray hairs, they acquire a faded, worn-out look at an age when their Western sisters are still fresh and glowing. There is nothing in the climate that sufficiently accounts for this. The two main causes are the speech of his Lordship:—"I never dreamt of excluding any children, or taking the distinctive doctrines of one church or another as the basis of the religious lesson." It may be added, to refer to the *China Mail*, that the *China Mail* is selected that might be as well taught at home as some people would not like to send their children to all.

I do not wish to discuss the question raised in your article as to the internal management of the School; but it will strengthen your view if I quote the words of Sir John Lubbock, who said that "the best school which could be founded in the country is that which is managed by the Chinese."

He said, "The master's department of the School can best be managed by the masters beyond question. I take it as a public service to which the Chinese interfere. That is all I can say in favour of the Chinese managing the School."

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